

was published by Vaillant (Bull. du Mus. 1897, p. 81) describing apparently the same species from Mrogoro torrent, Urugaru Mountains, E. Africa, as a new genus named *Chimarrhoglanis Leroyi*, the author overlooking Pfeffer's publications on the fishes of East Africa (Jahrb. Hamb. Wiss. Anst. vi. 1889, pt. 2, and x. 1893; and Thierw. O.-Afr. Lief. v. 1896).

I think the identification of the genera established independently by Pfeffer and Vaillant cannot be disputed. It is also evident that *A. uranoscopus* is a species distinct, though closely related to *A. platychir*, from which it is distinguished by a more elongate body, over five times the head-length, and longer maxillary barbels reaching to halfway between the head and the dorsal fin. But in view of the fact that *A. platychir* is stated to be from Sierra Leone, and as it seems improbable that so specialized a form should occur at such distant points in Africa, I have very carefully compared the new specimens, as well as Vaillant's description, with the types in the British Museum, without being able to detect any difference by which their separation could be justified\*. I must add, however, that the specimens labelled as from Sierra Leone have no history attached to them, no collector's name—in fact, have never been entered in the Museum register. I would therefore suggest the probability of the locality assigned to them being erroneous, and express my belief that the only known habitat of *Anoplopterus platychir* is the hill-streams of East Africa and Nyassaland, and that *A. platychir* represents the young and *A. Leroyi* the adult of one and the same species.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE.

P. BUBANI. *Flora Pyrenaea per Ordines Naturales gradatim digesta*. Opus posthumum editum, curante O. PENZIG. Volumen primum.

THIS is a bulky book of 550 pages plus the index of genera dealt with. The Latin preface runs to 33 pages. It would be difficult to calculate, from ground already covered in this first volume, how many more volumes will still be needed to complete the work. A mere cursory glance, however, is sufficient to prove the ability and

\* The vent is, however, anterior to the posterior third of the body, not posterior as stated by Vaillant.

industry of the author, although his methods are not likely to be adopted by practical botanists. Philological, antiquarian, and other discussions of length occur constantly, and seem altogether out of place in a modern Flora. A case in point may be found under *Helvina Dioscoridis*, which, by the way, is the correct name (*vide* Bubani) of the Linnean *Parietaria officinalis*. "Quid est *Perdicium*, Theophr. Hist. pl. c. 11?" Then follows a dissertation of some twenty lines, which doubtless would appeal to the classical scholar, but which most botanists would dismiss as useless. *Viscum album* (our mistletoe) becomes, with Theophrastus, Dioscorides, and Pliny as his authorities, *Stelin album*, Bubani. Holy Writ is frequently appealed to, and *Quercus vulgaris*, Bibl. Sacr. Genesis, chapt. xxxv. v. 8 (?), does duty for our common British *Q. pedunculata*. We do not know Hebrew, but it seems absurd to state (even if the assertion be queried by its maker) that the following verse gives us any information as to the species of oak meant:—"But Deborah Rebekah's nurse died, and she was buried beneath Bethel under an oak: and the name of it was called Allon-bachuth." Of the three common European Poplars, Theophrastus, Homer, and the Bible are respectively quoted as the authorities for *Populus tremula*, *P. nigra*, and *P. alba*. The descriptions given in the works cited by Dr. Bubani are certainly insufficient to enable us to determine the species.

The treatment of *Prunella vulgaris* occupies seven pages. There is neither here nor elsewhere in the book any specific descriptions, but full synonymy and citations are given, as well as localities, and critical notes on the structure and affinities &c. of the plant.

But we cannot conclude our notice of this remarkable work without quoting a learned critic, who writes:—"A volume of such learning and erudition, and one so accurately compiled, must, in spite of its eccentricities, have a warm welcome in the botanist's library."

G. N.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

*Note on Pamphila gonessa, Hew.* By F. A. HERON.

THE name of this species is, as mentioned by Dr. W. J. Holland in his paper on the African Hesperids (Proc. Zool. Soc. 1896, p. 102), omitted from Kirby's list of the Hewitson collection, but the type itself is in the collection under *crataceæ*, Snellen, of which it is a synonym.

Beneath the specimen the pin bears the labels "*gonessa*, Hew." (in Hewitson's own writing), and "Angola" (printed); but these names are not visible unless the insect is reversed.

No. 345 of Holland's list is therefore only an additional synonym of his no. 149.